

KENNY C. GUINN
Governor



MICHAEL J. WILLDEN
Director

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**NEVADA FOOD STAMP PROGRAM RECOGNIZED
FOR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE**

-Nevada fourth in the nation for program accuracy -

August 16, 2006 (*Carson City, Nev.*) – Federal administrators will arrive in Nevada next week to present Governor Kenny C. Guinn a high performance bonus for the state's Food Stamp Program.

A formal check presentation will be held on Tuesday, August 22 at 9:30 a.m. in the Governor's Office at the Capitol Complex, where U.S. Department of Agriculture, Deputy Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services, Kate Coler and Food and Nutrition Service Western Regional Administrator Allen Ng will meet with the Governor and state staff to recognize their outstanding efforts.

Governor Guinn said, "On behalf of the taxpayers of this state, I want to commend the Department of Health and Human Services for a job well done.

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In achieving this bonus, staff at the state Division of Welfare and Supportive Services has demonstrated exemplary attention to detail and good stewardship of the federal dollars that fully fund this program.”

Each year, the Federal Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) evaluates performance data submitted by each of the states, the District of Columbia, and territories and distributes cash awards for outstanding performance in various categories of the submitted data. These awards are called High Performance Bonuses.

One category evaluated by FNS is the Food Stamp Program Active Error Rate (errors discovered in open Food Stamp cases). The Official FFY05 Active error rate for Nevada is 2.86% which placed Nevada as the fourth most accurate state in the nation, and the second state in the most improved ranking. Nevada will receive a high performance bonus of \$1,146,492 for this achievement.

“This is a tremendous accomplishment for both the Division and the state,” said Nancy Ford, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services Administrator. “The hard work and dedication of our staff has truly paid off. Six of our offices in Elko, Pahrump, the Reno Professional Development Center, Winnemucca, Yerington, and our out-stationed unit serving the homeless corridor in Las Vegas, had zero active errors in the 2005 federal fiscal year.”

Other High Performance Bonuses awarded to Nevada in different categories through the efforts of the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services since 1999 include:

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SFY Award Received	FFY Award Based Upon	Activity For Which Award Was Received						Total
		Job Entry	Success in the Workforce	Medicaid & SCHIP Enrollment	Food Stamps	Child Care Subsidies	Family Formation and Stability	
2001	1999	\$ 2,198,838						\$2,198,838
2002	2000		\$ 2,198,838					\$2,198,838
2003	2001						\$ 303,634	\$ 303,634
2004	2002		\$ 511,829		\$ 1,221,223			\$1,733,052
2005	2003							\$ -
2006	2004		\$ 532,310					\$ 532,310
Total		\$ 2,198,838	\$ 3,242,977	\$ -	\$ 1,221,223	\$ -	\$ 303,634	\$6,966,672

The Nevada Department of Health and Human Services promotes the health and well-being of Nevadans through the delivery and facilitation of essential services to ensure that families are strengthened, public health is protected and individuals achieve their highest level of self-sufficiency. Under Director Michael J. Willden, each of the Department's agencies is committed to being accessible and responsive to the public it serves.

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